Loss due to Sardar Sarovar Project

4715. SHRI BRAHMA KUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item captioned "It is necessary to solve new disputes on Narmada project" which published in the Gujrati newspaper Sandesh dated the 28th February, 2000;

(b) whether Government have come to know that the work of Sardar Sarovar Project has come to a stand still;

(c) whether Government are also aware that due to stoppage of work Government are losing Rs. 8 crore per day and the total loss has come to Rs. 14,000 crores;

(d) whether it is in the interest of the development of the State; and

(e) if not, the measures to be taken to solve the problem immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) Yes sir. The work on various components of the Sardar Sarovar Project is in progress except the construction of the Dam which is constrained due to Civil Writ Petition filed by the Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) in Supreme Court in 1994. At present the issue of further raising of the Dam is subjudice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. A definite construction schedule is necessary to estimate loss due to delay in the construction of the dam, which depends on the final verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Availability of Water

4716. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGRWALLA:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that water availability in urban as will diminish substantially in the next five years; and

(b) if so, what strategies are adopted to improve the condition?